

SECRET CONTROL

Symphony

HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES FORCES AUSTRIA
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SUBJECT, GENERAL: Project SYMPHONY

SPECIFIC: Jewish clandestine emigration under SALZER

SOURCE: CONDUCTOR

REFERENCE: LVX 216

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
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COMMENT:

From time to time a number of emigration rackets connected distantly or closely with the SYMPHONY Project will be the subjects of reports. These specific reports, although not exactly connected with X-2 material, will still be of importance, as they will complete the picture of Jewish clandestine emigration into Vienna from the Balkan countries. At least they will show that there is no such thing as one single "Jewish Underground" emigration movement, but a stream of emigration, the largest being taken by the Jewish Agency (or JOINT) emigration and under, or next to that, a number of smaller emigration rackets, all the more dangerous because in order to exist, they are making deals with the Secret Police organizations of the countries of origin, and do not only smuggle out Jews, but also Gentiles who have many other reasons for leaving their country.

EVALUATION: B-3

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1. On 26 March 1946, the Jewish engineer Gabor SALZER was arrested by the Political Section of the Hungarian State Police for having run an organization which smuggled Nazis out of Budapest into Vienna. The organization was discovered in the following way:

2. In March 1945 Josef DARBAS, Imre JEREBEZ, Josef KATMARY (ex-actor in Budapest) and Sandor HAYDN (ex-musician) addressed themselves to a Jewish Office employee Emil UNGER asking whether it was possible to emigrate to Palestine posing as Jews. These four men were all Hungarian Nazis, and the latter two, KATMARY and HAYDN, are employed by the Information Branch of the Hungarian Red Cross, as they were not officially known as Nazis. UNGER told them that they would have to be Jews and that conversions were very difficult at the Jewish Community in Budapest but that this could be arranged by paying a large sum of money. They were willing to supply the sum in American dollars and approached a female employee of the Jewish Community, Mrs. Gyula GROSS, who was willing to arrange their conversion.

3. On 11 March 1946, the four Nazis entered the Jewish hospital in Budapest and were circumcised by a Jewish doctor who was paid a large sum in American dollars. The deal was discovered when other patients recognized the men.

4. Gabor SALZER, for whom UNGER and GROSS worked, was arrested as the ring-leader of this business. He had an arrangement with the NKVD whereby he provided Nazis with false identity papers and legitimation cards, and then smuggled them over to Vienna, where he himself was last seen three weeks ago. At the same time SALZER was an informant for the Political Section of the Hungarian State police, regarding the Jewish Agency underground movement. Apparently SALZER had been running a smooth working organization, whereby the NKVD provided SALZER's customer's with false papers, SALZER had his customers circumcised, and accompanied them, or had them accompanied to Vienna. From there they were helped further either by the Hungarian Red Cross or through other Jewish smugglers.